

Approved - Solid Waste Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes February 8, 2012

In attendance: SWAC Chair-Dan Locke, Phil Harris (DSWM), Kevin Demosky (DUSWM), Lori Finafrock (DSWM)

Committee Members: Dave Haller, Peter Blood, Rich Terselic, Harvey Alter, Bryan Malseed, Dawn Adams, Shelly Aloï, Brian Sclar

Guests: Kiesha Edmonds

The meeting began shortly after 6:30 PM. The minutes of the November meeting were approved without change.

Discussion began on the **Keep America Beautiful** (KAB) charter draft developed by Harvey-with him leading the discussion. Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) approval would be needed-and they would have to recind the approval they initially granted. Phil observed that the charter would be aided by a mission statement-which would help clarify impacts on the various departments of county government. In answer to questions, Harvey noted that county employees might not even be members of the KAB board of directors.

Harvey believes that the first appointees to the KAB board would have the job of recruiting others. The board as a whole would have to engage in fund raising-to support the activities of the KAB chapter-in the form of solicited gifts and grants. No county money would be involved.

As to proceeding to gain BOCC approval, he would like to meet first with the BOCC President-and hopefully convince him of the merits of having a KAB chapter. If successful, following this would be a presentation to the entire BOCC.

It was agreed that Phil's staff would draft an initial report for SWAC that would be used in the presentation to the BOCC President, and probably as an attachment to a single page summary for use with the entire BOCC. Phil will try to have this available for circulation to SWAC by the end of February.

Shelly introduced Kiesha Edmonds, who spearheaded a citizen beautification project in Frederick City. Shelly believes Kiesha is an example of the type of committed citizen who could be recruited to the KAB program.

Dan asked SWAC to provide comments to Harvey on his charter draft-also by the end of February.

Peter suggested the 2012 litter survey take place on March 24th. Alternate dates are the 17th or 31st. Four teams of 2-3 will need to be recruited. Dawn suggested inviting local college student groups to participate. Since Hands on Frederick no longer exists, the Clean Sweep program has been discontinued.

Phil reported that-to the best of his knowledge-all commercial food composting facilities that sprang up in the State have been closed. While solid waste officials found some in compliance, water officials closed them down on the basis of water runoff issues. The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) plans to develop guidelines for such facilities. Dan noted that food composting of materials collected by farmers on their own properties-for use there-are exempted from State regulation.

Harvey presented a brief report on the State-level recycling task force on which he served. This was the 4th such study group on which he served, beginning in the early 1980's. The newest report must be approved by a State-level Secretary before going to the General Assembly.

The new DSWM Recycling Program Manager, Lori Finafrock, presented a power point describing use of social media to promote the goals of the Department.

Harvey asked Lori had read a **Frederick News Post** letter to editor written by a local 5th grader on recycling? He believes the letter presents factually incorrect information that may be being taught in the schools. He suggested that Lori may wish to seize on the opportunity to address the situation with the schools.

In response to Rich's question, Phil reported that the recycling program continues to lose money-when collection costs are included. It might take a return of as much as \$250 per ton for processed recyclables to break even. The current level is in the order of \$100.

The next SWAC meeting is April 3.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.